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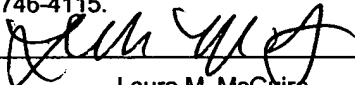
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	
<b>REQUEST FOR APPROVAL BY EXAMINER OF CHANGES TO DRAWINGS</b>	Atty. Docket No. (Opt.) <b>UBAT1310</b>
Applicant <b>Vladimir Merkulov, et al.</b>	
Application Number <b>09/795,660</b>	Date Filed <b>February 27, 2001</b>
For <b>Carbon Tips with Expanded Bases</b>	
Group Art Unit <b>2825</b>	Examiner <b>Lee, Granvill D.</b>

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

<p align="center"><u>Certification under 37 CFR § 1.8</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on July 24, 2003 to 703-746-4115.</p> <p align="center">           Laura M. McGuire       </p>
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**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DRAWING CHANGE  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.121(d)**

Applicants submit herewith, for which the approval of the Examiner is requested, one copy of one (1) sheet of sketches showing proposed changes to the drawings. The marked-up version of figure 5A adds detail numbers 510 and 520 to figure 5A. The lead line for 510 points to the center of the carbon containing expanded base. The lead line for 520 points to the precipitated graphitic carbon film that surrounds the carbon containing expanded base and which can be visually distinguished in figure 5A as originally filed by a lighter shade of gray compared to the shade of gray that corresponds to the carbon containing expanded base. Support for the changes is discussed in the supplemental preliminary amendment filed herewith. Applicant requests that the Examiner approve the substitute drawings. Upon the

Examiner's approval and allowance of this application, Applicant will submit formal drawings that incorporate the proposed change(s).

It is hereby requested that the change to the enclosed drawing be approved by the Examiner. It is believed that no fee is due; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0456 of Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich, LLP.

If any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney (512-457-7233 direct) for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

**Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich LLP**  
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

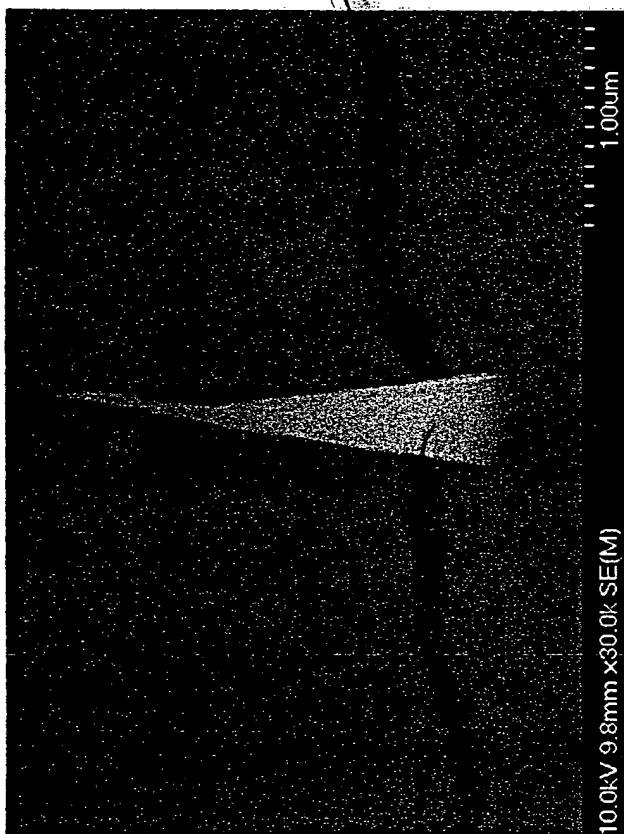
  
John J. Bruckner  
Registration No. 35,816

Dated:  24, '03

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Fig 5A

510



520

Fig 5B

